

Secretary's Office



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554
NOV 27 1996

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The Honorable Robert E. Andrews
U.S. House of Representatives
506A White Horse Pike
Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

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Dear Congressman Andrews:

Thank you for your letter of October 21, 1996, on behalf of your constituent, Albert G. Silbaugh, Chief of the Gibbstown Fire Department. Chief Silbaugh expresses concern regarding the Commission's recent proposal on policies for developing the initial digital television (DTV) channel allotments. The concern is that these proposals would result in interference to existing land mobile stations.

On July 25, 1996, the Commission proposed guidelines for assigning frequencies for DTV and also provided a draft DTV Table of Allotments (See Sixth Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 87-268, FCC No. 96-317 (released August 14, 1996)). These proposed allotments included channels currently authorized for sharing between broadcast television and mobile operations on frequencies in the range of UHF channels 14-20, which occupy the 470-512 MHz band, in 13 urban areas.

The Commission proposes to protect these land mobile operations using co-channel and adjacent channel mileage separations. The Commission also sought comments on possibly re-accommodating land mobile operations on channel 20 in Philadelphia. We specifically invited comment and suggestions regarding additional conditions that would be applied in cases where the proposed spacing standards cannot be met and the manner in which such conditions should be applied to achieve an appropriate balance between DTV and land mobile interests.

The comment period for this proceeding ended November 22, 1996. However, reply comments can be submitted through January 10, 1997. The Commission is very much aware of the concerns of the land mobile operators and we will carefully consider their comments in our decision to amend the Table of Allotments for broadcast television.

We will also include a copy of your constituent's letter in MM Docket No. 87-268.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Smith
Chief
Office of Engineering and Technology

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DM

ROBERT E. ANDREWS
FIRST DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3001

October 21, 1996

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE:
ASIA

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docket
6/96*

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim
Director, Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St NW Rm 808
Washington, D.C. 20036-3505

Dear Ms. Solheim:

I write to you on behalf of Chief Albert G. Silbaugh, Gibbstown Fire Department, 21 S. Pearl Ave., Gibbstown, NJ 08027, who has contacted my office for assistance. Enclosed please find correspondence regarding his concerns for Mass Media Bur. Docket 87-268.

I would appreciate if you would afford Chief Silbaugh all due consideration under the law in his efforts. In addition I would be interested in receiving your review and reply to this correspondence so that I may advise him accordingly.

Please forward your response to the attention of my aide, Ms. Susan Gronek, at 506A White Horse Pike, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035, (609) 546-5100, Fax: (609) 546-9529. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



ROBERT E. ANDREWS
Member of Congress

REA: smg
enc.

REPLY TO

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3001
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To: Rep. Robert Andrews
CC:
From: Albert G. Silbaugh
Date: October 14, 1996
Subject: FCC Objection

memo

Enclosed please find letter forwarded to the FCC.
This proposal is a very serious matter and we would appreciate
you support against the proposal.

from the desk of...

Albert G. Silbaugh
Chief
Gibbstown Fire Dept.
21 S. Pearl Ave.
Gibbstown, N. J. 08027

609-423-6580
Fax: 609-224-0602

Gibbstown Volunteer Fire Company No. 1

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

21 S. PEARL AVENUE • GIBBSTOWN, NEW JERSEY 08027

PHONE: (609) 423-8580 FAX: (609) 224-0802

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D. C. 20544

Oct. 14, 1996

Re: Mass Media Bur. Docket 87-268
General Docket 96-317

Fr: Albert G. Silbaugh, Chief

This correspondence is in reference to the above dockets of which we would like to file our objection.

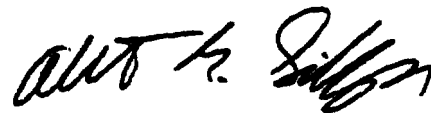
This proposal would cause our lines of communications via radio to become useless. The proposal is for the television stations to use those frequencies which we operate all emergency traffic on.

This interference would become a life safety hazard to not only the fire personnel but to the general public. In addition with our radios being rendered inoperative the switching to another radio frequency would require replacement of the existing system. This cost would exceed \$45,000.00 to our department alone. Being a volunteer fire department we can not possibly afford such an expense.

These proposals must be rejected for the well being of the public's safety. Thank you for attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

cc: Sen. Bill Bradley
Sen. Frank Lautenberg
Rep. Robt. Andrews



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